TL 2294

Child Concern
IDN/TMP 290196.CC

The International Secretariat of OMCT/SOS Torture requests your **urgent** intervention in the following situation in East Timor.

Brief description of the situation:
Antenna International, a member of our network, has expressed its grave concern over the arrest of several young people attempting to flee East Timor.

In spite of declarations, by the Indonesian President and Foreign Minister, that East Timorese are free to leave the occupied territory, many have been arrested by the military forces in their attempt to flee their homeland.

According to information received, a group of **25 youths** (aged 15 to 21 years) were arrested at Tutuala, East Timor, on January 20, 1996, while heading to Australia. Among those there were four seventeen years old boys: **Jose da Costa Belo, Saturnino Gama, Antonio Freitas** and **Joao Brito Gama** (a complete name list is available from the Secretariat). An eyewitness has alleged the detainees were subjected to torture.
The information also refers to the arrest and detention, on January 16, at Leguidoe, of a young girl, **Martinha Pereira** (17), along with two adults, **Domingos Jesus Xavier** (20) and **Juliana Pereira** (40), accused of hiding Falintil resistants. They were allegedly tortured including the rape of the women.

Since its occupation by Indonesia, East Timor has been subject to repression and gross human rights violations. Given the situation, many people have attempted to leave the territory, including a majority of young people. Some have been able to take refuge in Jakartan diplomatic missions or managed to reach Australia. However, a substantial number have been captured on their way to asylum.

Last november, 25 people were arrested while escaping from East Timor. They were subsequently allegedly tortured.

The information also details harassment of the civilian population of East Timor by the Indonesian military. On January 15, Indonesian soldiers established their camp near Fatrui Lau and Berleu hamlets (Leguidoe). They are said to force their way every night into houses for inspections.

Action requested:
Please write to the Indonesian authorities urging them to:

i order the immediate release of all children, if they are still detained, and guarantee their physical and psychological integrity;

ii guarantee the psychological and physical integrity of all people detained and order their immediate release if they are detained without any valid charges or, if such charges exist, bring them before a competent and impartial civilian tribunal and guarantee their procedural rights at all times;

Director
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iii guarantee the right to appropriate reparation and compensation to the victims;

iv guarantee a full, impartial and exhaustive enquiry into the facts, identify those responsible, bring them to trial and apply the penal, civil and/or administrative sanctions provided by legislation;

v ensure in all circumstances respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms in accordance with national laws and international standards.

Addresses:

MINISTER OF JUSTICE
M. Haji Utoyo Usman S.H., Menteri Kehakiman, JI. H.R. Rasuna Said Kav. 6-7, Kuningan, Jakarta Selatan, Indonesia. Fax : + 62 21 525 3095

CHIEF OF NATIONAL POLICE
Maj. Gen. (Pol.) Banurusman Atmosumitro, Kapolri, Markas Besar Kepolisian RI, JI. Trunojoyo 13, Kebayoran Baru, Jakarta Selatan, Indonesia.
Telegrams : National Police Chief, Jakarta, Indonesia

MILITARY COMMANDER REGION IX/UDAYANA
(covers East Timor, amongst other areas)
Maj. Gen. A. Rivai, Pangdam IX/Udayana, Markas Besar KODAM IX/Udayana, Denpasar, Bali, Indonesia.
Telegram : Pangdam IX/Udayana, Denpasar, Bali, Indonesia.

Geneva, 29 January 1996

Kindly inform us of any action undertaken quoting the code number of this appeal in your reply.